

Baptist Missionary in AFRICA.

Carrying the Gospel and Civilization to Congo Land.

By J. H. CAMP.

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SYNOPSIS.

The author joined one of the earlier expeditions of the American Baptist Mission Union to the Congo, and was placed in command of the steamer Henry Reed. The opening of the present chapter finds him on the Sankuru River en route to Lusamb.

The remainder of my journey up the Sankuru River was without event of particular interest. Upon arriving at Lusamb I found to all intents and purposes an American in command. You may well imagine my surprise when Lieut. Paul Lemarier saluted me, and said in a proud tone, as I stepped off my steamer and took him by the hand, "Captain, I am glad to welcome you to Lusamb, and also to see our dear old flag floating from a steamer in Central Africa."

This was another surprise to me, as he said "our flag." What did this mean, a Belgian officer claiming Uncle Sam's flag as his? At dinner he told his story, saying that at an early day his parents had moved to Iowa, where he was born. At an early age he was returned to Belgium for better schooling. Nevertheless, he declared, he was an American, and proud of it.

Most of his time he was in the service of Belgium. He is now Commissaire of this District, which is about equal to Governor of a State in Uncle Sam's domain.

While at Lusamb, I saw many station several of the Lieutenants were

living at Leo 12 days later, ready for a rest, but all well.

HORRORS OF SLAVE TRADE.

A long time after this, when the children were no longer afraid of white folks cutting them, they began to tell their stories of how they had been abused. Two little girls, Mounia and Myanga, told me that they had been stolen from among their people and were, with a large line of other slaves, driven from the watershed of the Zambezi, over hills and down the north river to Lusamb. At times when the life-devouring became weary, they were fastened by ropes around their necks into a long line of slaves, with which they either had to keep up or they were lashed by an executioner who was always with the caravan. He would come to where the poor, tired child was, and with one blow of his knife would sever the head from the body, and the ropes, so as to save time, and releasing it. The little boy would either be left beside the road or into pieces, and divided among the slaves; to be killed for these next meal.

These poor little ones, of whom I got several, would often repeat their stories and mention the names of their friends who had been killed this way, and would also often say that they had been to be the next. However, they lived to become bright little ministering angels to others who were still in heathen darkness. They would, in fact, travel long distances and tell their stories to other heathen people. After some four years with the Mission, Mounia died of sleeping sickness, at Stanley Pool. I am glad to say, however, that she was good from mines, and a few days' travel

These are a jealous people, and are fair mechanics and successful workers in metals. I am also told great stories of the south and west, but I have no reasons to believe any of them. They are very poor in comparison, and certainly are if my informants are correct, which I have no reason to doubt, as their stories are mostly proven by samples, which I have seen, and I am satisfied of the facts.

DEPOSITS OF COPPER AND IRON.

Just north, on the lakes of Mantumba and other inland bodies of fresh water, it is said, copper and iron abound in large quantities, and the mines would be worked if there was a demand for the metal, but as at that time there was no railroad communication with the coast it could only be used for domestic purposes. It is made into large X-shaped plates weighing about five pounds and used as money. Five buy a good stove, 16 buy a large ox, and from one to 100 buy an elephant tusk, according to size.

By the surface indications this whole southern plateau must be a mine of mineral wealth yet unknown to the outer world. When this heavy forest is cleared away and civilization enters, there is no doubt but this will be found to be the Garden of Eden of all earth, and unlimited in its mineral supplies. Returning to old mother Congo, at the mouth of the Kasai, just above where the Kasai enters the Congo, we find a Catholic Mission where children are being educated and taught in their faith, and are also taught industries and are doing well. This station is generally in charge of two fathers, who are very hard workers. A few miles farther on, on the opposite side of the Congo is the mouth of the Lawson River, a small stream coming in on the French or north side of the main stream. This little stream must be the outlet of a series of springs, as the water is clear and beautiful. Some three or four miles up this little canyon may be seen the chalk-colored white sidehills of some 400 to 700 feet in height. Little is known as yet of this locality.

BWEMBA MISSION.

Now the navigators must begin to awaken to duty, as the river as we ascend it is becoming more dangerous from rocks, sandbars, etc. About two hours' run brings us to the native town of Bwemba, where Rev. A. Billington established a missionary station several years ago, but has met with little success as yet. Back of this station, to the south is a high point of perhaps 600 or 700 feet in height, from which may be seen the entire surrounding country. Just above here the river winds out to several miles—in fact, no one knows how wide, but it may be roughly estimated at from three to five miles, and is quite shallow and full of small sandbars which become islands in low water.

BEAUTIFUL TROPICAL BIRDS. These islands and sandbars are the summing places of the hippopotami, alligators, and birds of all kinds—many very beautiful in plumage. Among them is the gray pelican, which often grows to a large size. I have seen them weighing 70 pounds, with wings some nine feet across. The blue stork is also found in large sizes, but the most beautiful of all is the ancient Egyptian ibis, with a white body and a long, straight, bushy tail. In each wing is found from three to 12 iridescent plumes, the most beautiful and artistic of all feather ornaments which could adorn the attire of our ladies.

We have in this region some 20 ornamental birds which might be sent to America, or any part of the plumage preserved and sent there by express. These birds range in size from the pelican to the smallest finch.

Nearly every bird of Africa is of bright plumage, some of the most beautiful of different colors, from golden yellow to a deep brown, and all other colors to suit a new dress suit and hat to match.

VALUABLE TIMBER.

In this dense growth of mahogany, satinwood, copal and polyanther trees, rubber vines and other vines may be found the seeds of the tree which is the source of the rubber of the Congo. The tree is a small bushy tree, from the little dwarf of 20 pounds to a very large tree weighing from 700 to 800 pounds. It is a tree of the forest, in some cases reaching two or three miles back from the stream.

There are only a few species of monkeys, and by native reports, which I could only get in a most confidential manner, the natives know of its wealth and its whereabouts, and can and do send and receive long distances to sell it, as they are afraid that if a traitorous white man comes in they will be driven from their country, their homes stolen, and all laid waste.

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The way of the poor, traveling fisherman is not always strewn with roses, but often after a hard day's paddling he is enabled to get a fair meal of crocodile eggs, which are about as large as those of a hen, and may be able to get a meal of the eggs of the sand-swallows, which are very prolific layers, and like the crocodiles, hide their eggs in the sand. In the night the sand-swallows are in the water, and from Lone Island Point we usually reach Bobolo, a long series of native huts of some five miles in length. It was in the midst of the forest, where the white man would find a splendid world for his business. The Baptist Missionary Society of London, settled and built a large station for industrial work. Mrs. Grenfell, being a Cameron lady and a descendant of Ham, is very kindly disposed, and the Congo people with kindness and love, and yet always a strict hand in an emergency, and is in all ways a most estimable lady and very helpful to her husband, who may well be called Britain's faithful servant of God in Central Africa. Their explorations in that mighty interior are shown on the map of Africa. Their untiring researches, with their faithful followers in nearly all sections of dark Ethiopia, will ever guide the strange traveler in the mighty mystery of this recently opened country, which is the watershed of the Congo and her tributaries.

(To be continued.)

Sapphires in Montana.

It is perhaps not generally known that in the United States, the only place where sapphires are found in any quantity is in the State of Montana. An extensive mine is in operation, producing as fine sapphires and rubies as are found in the world. Sapphires and rubies are both varieties of the mineral corundum. Burma and Siam were formerly the only localities for these gems, although the mineral occurs abundantly in many places, especially in the eastern United States, where it is mined and prepared for abrasive purposes. The old world localities seem to be nearing exhaustion, but the Montana mines appear destined to have a bright future. Sapphires are about all that are being worked at present, with a 50-foot shaft, but in progress, which will permit work to be carried round, a larger yield will result. During 1898 425,776 carats were produced, which were all shipped to London and cut on the continent, and many reimported into the United States.

Most Superb Day Train in the World. The "Royal Limited," leaves Baltimore & Ohio R. R. Station, Jersey Avenue & C Street, daily, 3 P. M., arrives New York 8 P. M. Splendid dining and cafe car service.

PHILIPPINE PLAGUES.

Measures Taken by Military Authorities to Improve Sanitary Conditions and Prevent Spread of Diseases in Manila.

Special correspondence to THE NATIONAL TRIBUNE.

MANILA, Feb. 23.

As illustrative of journalistic enterprise a local paper to-day contained the rather startling information that 36 new cases of bubonic plague had developed yesterday. On inquiry at Sanitary Headquarters, under the command of Maj.-Gen. C. E. Brown, I was informed that there was no truth in the report, but that the story had probably arisen from the fact that Maj. Brown, in making his round of sanitary inspection had ordered 36 different Chinamen to be arrested for keeping their premises in a dirty condition. The health authorities are congratulating themselves on the fact that, with the exception of one suspect, no new cases of plague have developed for more than a week.

The first case reported was that of a native Filipino, Dec. 29, 1899, and since that time 25 natives have had the disease, 17 cases proving fatal. About the middle of January it was found that a Chinaman named Chan Yap had died of the disease in San Nicholas, the District next to the bay and river, constituting the lowest part of the business quarter.

This was a source of new and serious apprehension, not only because of the strength of the superstitions among the Chinese as to the treatment of their sick and cremation of the dead, but also from the crowded and unsanitary condition of their dwellings. The more intelligent and wealthy of the Chinese, however, immediately offered the authorities their co-operation and support. They subscribed money for the erection of a new hospital to be used by victims of the disease among their own people, and organized a Chinese sanitary corps to co-operate with the authorities in making a thorough inspection of the Chinese quarter. Their sanitary corps has proved very efficient in the American hospital, in which the suspects are placed, made up of tents, but the Chinese is constructed of nipa thatch.

THE BLACK DEATH.

The bubonic plague, also known as "black death" and Oriental plague, is a novelty to the greater part of the medical profession here. It is described as an acute, contagious disease, characterized by fever, inflammatory swelling of the lymphatic glands, and hemorrhages. It is immediately due to the absorption of a bacillus either by direct inoculation, by insect action from the food, or contact of the person.

After incubating for from two to five days, the disease develops by producing severe pain in the lymphatic glands, and perhaps delirium. In a day or two bubonic carbuncles in other parts, which excrete or break out upon the surface.

Post-mortem examinations disclose a thick, rod-shaped bacillus peculiar to the disease. A 12-inch immersion lens reveals a rod-shaped bacillus, a marked characteristic being the extreme ends of the individual bacillus are stained by added coloring matter the central part is not. That great care and caution are necessary in making laboratory examinations of the germs was very thoroughly demonstrated in Vienna several years ago, where, through the accidental breaking of a bottle of the germs, four persons, including the doctor and his assistant, lost their lives.

The Japanese professors, Aoyama and Katsura, who have discovered and identified the plague bacillus in culture imported from Hong Kong while it was raging in that city, were more fortunate; they made the mistake of maintaining that the climate of Japan was never foster and propagate plague germs. The fact that the plague is just now prevalent in Kobe and other Japanese towns is a most striking refutation of their theory, much upon external temperature as upon the heat of the human body for its active operations.

HEALTH INSPECTORS.

Of course the great abettor and coadjutor of the plague, as of most other diseases here, is filth; and to successfully encounter and destroy this most insidious enemy, the sanitary patrol I have made daily rounds of inspection since this special instruction against filth and good order began. No "shabby" nipa hut, stable, outhouse, or house-hold escapes them. The corps of health inspectors number 190, including 32 Chinese, and their red-cross badges are a ready passport to any and every place they choose to enter.

They carry in a light wagon different disinfectants, as chloride of lime, bichloride of mercury, and carbolic acid, together with chickens, lemons, and other things, every place requiring it, do their work rapidly and thoroughly.

A disinfecting plant, brought over by the transport Warren, is also at the service of the corps. At an inspection, when necessary, a man who speaks Tagalog, Malay and three Chinese dialects, as well as Spanish and English. He is a Portuguese messenger, born in the Caroline Islands and educated at Hong Kong.

As illustrating what they encounter, they found a family of 15 persons, representing three generations, living in a corner of a stable, eating and sleeping together in a space not more than six feet square.

In another case a family of 16 lived in one room, and in many cases the chickens have been found concealed in the bedding or about the house. Strict orders have been issued that these animals shall not be kept within the city limits.

DISEASE DURING RATS.

The theory is mooted that small animals, and especially rats, are active agents in spreading the disease; and I was informed at the Sanitary Bureau that dead rats had been found in the infected quarter since the outbreak of the disease. The disease and since, which, it was believed, were victims of the plague, though the defect rodents have not been found in such numbers as to warrant reports of rats in Hong Kong and Bombay when the plague raged in those cities.

Another theory put forward to explain why the disease makes such frightful inroads among Orientals and seldom attacks Europeans, is that so many of the former go about with their feet unprotected, and that it is prompt to attack the soles and soles of shoes which happen to come in contact with the germs. In support of this view the fact is urged that it was among the Chinese, lacking such footwear, that the disease was first introduced when ravaging the provinces of Yunnan and Kwangtung in Southern China, in 1892, and the same disease in Canton in 1893, and that its victims were of the most order in Bombay in 1896 and 1897. That there is some truth in this seems probable, though the same disease has been introduced and well-shod Europeans are known to have died of the plague in Hong Kong in 1894 and since.

Being a self-limited disease, the treatment for plague is entirely stimulative, strychnine being the usual remedy administered. In case of death, the body is immediately cremated, except in the case of Chinese, when it is turned over to the factor of the sanitary corps, and under American supervision buried in quicklime six feet below the surface.

The crematorium, as well as the plague hospitals—the small-pox, and also the leper hospital known as San Lazaro—are all located at Pao, a suburb constituting the southernmost quarter of Manila.

LEPER HOSPITAL.

The selection of this site for lepers dates back to the year 1832, when the Mikado of Japan, becoming exasperated because of

GLIMPSES OF WASHINGTON LIFE.

We take another glimpse this week of outdoor life at the Capital of the Nation by means of the snapshots of the era. The first on the left are two gentlemen stepping off at a lively pace, and they are Senator Foraker, of Ohio, and his son.

SENATOR FORAKER AND SON.



son also had military aspirations, and for a short time occupied a staff position in the Spanish-American War, but this contest did not last long enough to make room for many ambitions.

The Forakers occupy a leading place in Washington society now, living in a splendid mansion in the Northwest quarter of the city, the abode of pretty much all swellbros.

To the right of the picture of the Forakers we present a characteristic portrait of the man who drew the long blue ribbon in the Spanish-American War. Before the Spaniards blew up the Maine he was simply a Surgeon in the Regular Army. It is true that he should have had a pretty large share of the credit for the capture of Gerónimo and his band of Apaches, some 14 or 15 years ago, but for some reason his exploit was kept rather in the background, and few people know that he actually went single-handed into the Apache camp after they had been chased by the troops for months.

He died on August 11, 1876, with Chief Gerónimo, leaving the next morning with authority from the old Chief to arrange for a settling on what was then the frontier.



GEN. LEONARD WOOD.

No doubt he owes his present position as Major-General and Governor of Cuba largely to Theodore Roosevelt, now Governor of New York. When this energetic gentleman stepped upon leaving the Navy Department to take care of his life, so far as he was concerned, and resigned in order to raise the famous regiment of Rough Riders, he asked the President to make Dr. Leonard Wood his Colonel. A week at Santiago sufficed to make Roosevelt Colonel and Wood a Brigadier-General. Then followed his administration of the post-hold which the Spaniards left at Santiago, and his fame was firmly grounded. The photograph shown above was taken during a visit to Washington some weeks ago, just as he was in the act of mounting the east steps of the War Department building. General Wood is considered a Vice-Presidential possibility. He is a Republican.

Below we have a picture of the sturdy farmer Senator from Minnesota, the Hon. Knute Nelson, and his daughter. Senator Nelson has had a long career in Washington, where he was for years a member of the House of Representatives. He is a man of common sense and broad views. He has not always been solidly in line with his party, being the only Republican who voted for the Mills Tariff Bill, away back in the days when there was a constant struggle in Congress between the protection idea and the "tariff for revenue only" scheme. Senator Nelson was a soldier in the Wisconsin regiment and served all through the war of the rebellion, returning from the field, and settling on what was then the frontier.

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